

# Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

April 24, 2009

## Message from County Executive Walker

*Sue Black, our parks director, called me the other morning with exciting news: the Milwaukee County Parks Department was one of four systems in the finals for the best park system in the country (see story in this e-Update). Years ago, when I first hired Sue, she told me her goal was to bring home the Gold Medal.*

*We will not find out until October if our park system is the best in the country, but I do think it is worth thanking Sue and the entire parks staff for the tremendous work that they are doing through innovations, partnerships and plenty of hard work.*

*With spring here and summer around the corner, take some time to check our website ([www.countyparks.com](http://www.countyparks.com)) and see all that we have to offer around the county. The Domes are alive again. Bradford Beach is going to be another big hit this year. Our golf courses look outstanding. A new aquatic center will open this summer.*

*To continue to improve the parks, we need your help. Get out and use them - from golfing to swimming to biking and so many other fun things - because the parks are yours to discover!*

Scott



## Crime Victims' Rights



County Executive Walker hosted a ceremony in the Courthouse rotunda with District Attorney John Chisholm to kick off National Crime Victims' Rights Week events. The events April 26 – May 2 celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Victims of Crime Act. Government and community organizations involved in service and support programs for crime victims were recognized and received "Rebuilding Lives Service Awards." Visit this link to see the complete list of this year's recipients: <http://tinyurl.com/dnxv4c>



DA Chisholm, Jan Cummings of Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen's office, County Executive Scott Walker

DA Chisholm, Maurice Pulley, Sr., advocate for witness protection programs, County Executive Walker



## Parks - Gold Medal Contender!



County Executive Walker announced that the Milwaukee County Parks Department has been selected as one of the top four finalists for the 2009 National Gold Medal for Excellence award in the Park and Recreation Management Program. The award is the most prestigious and highly esteemed award a park and recreation agency can receive.

"This is outstanding news and reflects the hard work of the dedicated staff in the parks," said Walker. "Our parks are a source of enjoyment for the entire community, and this recognition showcases our pride in our parks to the nation."

Finalists and winners of the National Gold Medal are selected each year by a distinguished panel of leaders from the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration and the National Recreation and Park Association who select the winner from submission from all 50 states.

As a finalist, the Milwaukee County Parks Department will now move on to the second and last round of Gold Medals. To determine the winner, the finalists are required to submit a 12-minute video featuring parks programs and services. The winner will be named this October at the National Recreation and Park Association's conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Visit [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org) for information on the national organization, and [www.countyparks.com](http://www.countyparks.com).

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Executives' Ride!



County Executive Walker announced details of his 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Executives' Ride taking place June 20 – 25 promoting Milwaukee County tourism and business throughout the state and into four adjacent states. Some of the motorcycle riders planning on making the trip joined him at House of Harley to outline the route. Visit [www.countyexecutivesride.com](http://www.countyexecutivesride.com) for information.



## Attorney General holds law enforcement forum



County Executive Walker participated in a forum hosted by Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen with Milwaukee County law enforcement officials to share issues of concern with his staff and local legislators.